

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, significant health disparities exist among African American and other minority groups for preventable health conditions and diseases including HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, African Americans account for approximately thirty percent of the state's population, yet an estimated seventy-three percent of persons living with HIV/AIDS are African Americans; and

WHEREAS, Faith communities have the potential to play a significant role in the fight against life-threatening diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, by serving as centers for education, compassion, and care; and

WHEREAS, the Black Church HIV/AIDS Institute has been instrumental in mobilizing the African American faith community to help address the challenges of HIV/AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 21 - 27, 2007, as

BLACK CHURCH INSTITUTE ON HIV/AIDS AND OTHER HEALTH DISPARITIES WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to provide culturally appropriate health education, prevention, testing, and support services to help alleviate the impact of health disparities among blacks and other minorities.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA